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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshio TAMURA et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/JP99/05946)

Filed : Concurrently Herewith (International Filing Date October 27, 1999)

For : SALES SUPPORT SYSTEM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (a marked-up copy of the claim amendments is provided as an attachment to this Amendment):

42. (Amended-Clean Text) The sales support system for commodity or service of claim 34, wherein the commodity is a tool or a part of metal processing machine.